

September 1, 2015

The following was sent to program directors.

2016 KYAE Mathematics Institute – Achieving Success on the GED® Test

Dear Program Directors and Math Instructors,

You've told us you need help getting students to pass the Mathematical Reasoning portion of the 2014 GED® test. Bonnie Goonen and Susan Pittman are coming to Kentucky to give you that help!

Do you have students who only need to pass one more module before earning their high school credential? Is that module the GED® Mathematical Reasoning test? If so, then you are not alone. The national data is in and once again almost 60% of students fail the math test, and roughly 43% miss passing the test by just one to four questions.

The 2016 KYAE Mathematics institute is designed to address the content that students need to master if they are to pass the GED® Mathematical Reasoning test. The GED Testing Service® has conducted extensive research and developed a report on High Impact Indicators (HII). These indicators link directly to what students are missing and what adult educators need to cover in their classroom if students are to have greater success on the math test. During the course of this institute, participants will:

- Take an in-depth look at most missed questions on the GED® Mathematical Reasoning test
- Learn how to use the High Impact Indicators to help students address those most missed areas
- Use instructional strategies, activities, and a wide range of resources to address the most missed areas
- Learn how to help students understand the “why” and “how” of mathematics in three distinct areas:
 - Building procedural skill and fluency in the basics of math – something that can be started at the Adult Basic Education level to give students that extra edge
 - Enhancing students’ ability to solve problems for success on the GED® Mathematical Reasoning test and in real-life situations
 - Addressing the fundamentals of algebraic reasoning to help students learn the skill they need to answer those most missed areas that represent more than 50% of the GED® test
- Receive numerous resources for use in the classroom

Session 1 – Building Procedural Skill and Fluency in Mathematics for GED Success

If students are going to be successful in answering quantitative reasoning questions on the GED® math test, they have to have a strong foundation of basic skills. Approximately 45% of test questions and about 30% of most missed questions deal with the fundamentals of math – fractions, decimals, percent, and geometric reasoning. The first session is designed to get back to basics to help students answer those 1-4 questions that are keeping them from GED® success.

Session 2 - Problem-Solving for GED Success

Mathematical problem solving is an essential skill for success on the GED® Mathematical Reasoning Test as well as in real-life situations. This session will be devoted to strategies

and activities designed to help instructors assist their students in developing lifelong problem solving skills. Math test questions are primarily presented as word problems. Even students with a strong foundation of the fundamentals may struggle on the test if they do not know how to translate those word problems and use the correct procedures to solve them. This session will take the problem out of problem-solving and provide instructors with a range of strategies for use in the classroom.

Session 3 - Algebraic Reasoning – Meeting the Greatest Challenge on the GED® Mathematical Reasoning Test

Algebraic reasoning problems represent more than 50% of the GED® Mathematical Reasoning Test. For many students, the very idea of working with algebra creates fear and anxiety. For many instructors the idea of teaching algebra also raises concerns. However, everyone uses algebra reasoning every day and just doesn't realize it. This session is designed to help instructors build their own confidence in teaching algebraic reasoning and to help students master the fundamentals of algebra necessary for success on the math test.

Even if you're taking other PD, please consider enrolling in this institute as well. Sign up before September 11 through the PD Catalog for a cohort of your choice; dates and locations are on page 18 of the [PD Handbook](#).